polysaccharide selected from xanthan gum and hydroxypropylmethylcellulose (HPMC) as a therapeutically active agent in an amount effective to treat inflammatory bowel disease, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or vehicle.

2. (Amended) [A] The composition [as claimed in] according to Claim 1, wherein the polysaccharide is xanthan gum.

3. (Amended) [A] The composition [as claimed in] according to Claim 1, wherein the polysaccharide is HPMC.

4. (Amended) [A] The composition [as claimed in] according to [any one of the preceding claims] Claim 1, wherein the polysaccharide is present as the sole therapeutically active ingredient.

5. (Amended) [A] The [DRO] composition [as claimed in] according to [any one of the preceding claims] Claim 1 which is a DRO composition.

6. (Amended) [A] The [DRO] composition [as claimed in] according to Claim 5 which DRO composition is an enteric coated dosage form adapted to release its contents within the region of the jejunum to the colon.

7. (Amended) [A] The ~~rectally~~ administrable composition [as claimed in] according to [any one of Claims 1 to 4] Claim 1.

8. (Amended) [A] The rectally administrable composition [as claimed in] according to Claim 7 which is a liquid enema or foam enema.

9. (Amended) [A] The [liquid enema] composition [as claimed in] according to Claim [8] 2, which is a liquid enema containing [wherein the polysaccharide is] xanthan gum in a concentration of about 0.4 to about 2% w/w (based on the composition).

10. (Amended) [A] The [foam enema] composition [as claimed in] according to Claim [8] 2, which is a foam enema containing [wherein the polysaccharide is] xanthan gum in a concentration of about 1.4 to about 2.5 % w/w (based on the composition).

11. (Amended) [A] The [liquid enema] composition [as claimed in] according to Claim [8] 3, which is a liquid enema containing [wherein the polysaccharide is] HPMC in a concentration of about 1 to about 20 % w/w (based on the composition).

12. (Amended) [A] The [foam enema] composition [as claimed in] according to Claim [8] 3, which is a foam enema containing [wherein the polysaccharide is] HPMC in a concentration of about 2.5 to about 25% w/w (based on the composition).

13. (Amended) [A] The rectally administrable composition [as claimed in] according to Claim 7 [or Claim 8], wherein the polysaccharide is xanthan gum in an amount of about 400 to about 2000 mg per unit dose.

14. (Amended) [A] The rectally administrable composition [as claimed in] according to Claim 7 [or Claim 8], wherein the polysaccharide is HPMC in an amount of about 1 to about 20 g per unit dose.

15. (Amended) [A] The DRO composition [as claimed in] according to Claim 5 [or Claim 6, wherein the] in unit dose form containing about 400 to about 2000 mg of the polysaccharide [is 400 to 2000 mg] per unit dose.

22. (Amended) A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) comprising contacting the diseased mucosa of the gastro-intestinal tract with a therapeutic amount of a polysaccharide selected from xanthan gum and hydroxypropylmethylcellulose (HPMC).

Add the following new claims:

- - 23. The liquid enema according to Claim 11, wherein the HPMC is in a concentration of 5 to 20 % w/w (based on the composition).

a3 cont'd

24. The method according to Claim 22 wherein the disease state is pouchitis.

25. The method according to Claim 22 wherein the disease state is left-sided ulcerative colitis.

26. The method according to Claim 22 wherein the disease state is Crohn's disease.

27. A liquid enema for the treatment or prophylaxis of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) comprising xanthan gum in a concentration of about 0.4 to about 2 % w/w (based on the composition) as a therapeutically active agent in an amount effective to treat inflammatory bowel disease, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or vehicle.

28. A foam enema for the treatment or prophylaxis of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) comprising xanthan gum in a concentration of about 1.4 to 2.5 % w/w (based on the composition ) as a therapeutically active agent in an amount effective to treat inflammatory bowel disease, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or vehicle. - -